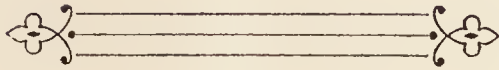


RAWMARSH

Urban District Council.



THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S

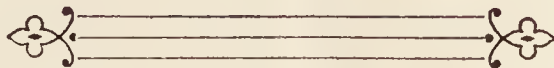
Annual Report

For the Year 1902,

BY

JAMES PICKEN, M.B., C.M.,


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



ROTHERHAM :

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1902.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rawmarsh Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The death-rate I have to record for the year 1902 is considerably lower and the birth-rate slightly lower than in 1901, being respectively 16.32 and 38.18 per thousand inhabitants, against 18.43 and 38.18. This death-rate is the same as that for the whole of England and Wales, which for the year 1902 is the lowest recorded. The corrected rate, however, which includes the deaths of 16 residents of the parish removed through sickness or infirmity to institutions outside the district, is 17.39, against 18.43 for the previous year, and is nearly the same as the death-rate for the 76 great towns, but is 2 per thousand inhabitants higher than for the 103 smaller towns and for the whole of England and Wales, less the 179 towns. The diminished death-rate as compared with that for 1901 is largely due to the decrease in the number of deaths from Diarrhœa among infants under one year, 12 having died from that disease against 30 for the previous year. This, I think, is to be attributed to the low summer temperature and not to improved sanitary conditions or greater care in the rearing of infants.

Building operations continued active during the year. Ninety-nine dwelling houses were erected and occupied, against 85 for 1901, 75 in Rawmarsh and 24 in Parkgate, against 53 and 32 respectively during the previous year. Eighteen houses were demolished and five closed.

TABLE I.
HOUSES, POPULATION, &c.

| | Rawmarsh | Parkgate. | Whole Parish. |
|--|----------|-----------|---------------|
| Acreage, 1891 | — | — | 2549 |
| Acreage, 1902 | — | — | 2549 |
| Number of Houses built and occupied during 1902 | 75 | 24 | 99 |
| Number of Houses occupied at the end of 1902 | 1535 | 1523 | 3058 |
| Population at Census, 1901 | 7210 | 7377 | 14587 |
| Population estimated to the middle of 1902 | 7465 | 7542 | 15007 |
| Population estimated to the middle of 1903 | 7680 | 7635 | 15315 |

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Five hundred and seventy-three births (311 males and 262 females) were registered during the year, being 13 more than in 1901, and giving a birth-rate of 38.18 per thousand inhabitants, against 38.23 for 1901 and 28.6 for England and Wales for 1902.

There were 13 illegitimate births (6 males and 7 females) registered against 24 in 1901.

TABLE II.

Showing the births and birth-rate for the year for each district and for the whole parish.

| District. | Popula- tion. | Births. | | | Birth Rate per 1000 per annum. |
|---------------|------------------|---------|----------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| | | Males. | Females. | Total. | |
| Rawmarsh .. | 7465 | 130 | 125 | 255 | 34.15 |
| Parkgate | 7542 | 181 | 137 | 318 | 42.16 |
| Whole Parish | 15007 | 311 | 262 | 573 | 38.18 |

TABLE III.

Showing the births and birth-rate for the Parish for each quarter and for the whole year.

| QUARTER. | Births. | Birth Rate per 1000 per Annum. |
|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| First Quarter | 153 | 40.78 |
| Second ,, | 164 | 43.71 |
| Third ,, | 128 | 34.11 |
| Fourth ,, | 128 | 34.11 |
| Whole year... .. | 573 | 38.18 |

DEATHS.

Two hundred and forty-five deaths (134 males and 111 females) were registered in the district during the year, being 15 less than in 1901, and giving a death-rate of 16.32 per thousand inhabitants, against 18.43 for 1901. Sixteen deaths of persons belonging to this parish occurred in institutions outside the district, viz., one in a Sheffield Hospital, four in Rotherham Hospital, and 11 in Rotherham Workhouse, making a total of 261 deaths for the year, and equal to a rate of 17.39 per thousand inhabitants.

The mortality of infants under one year is much less than in 1901, when it was exceptionally high. One hundred and one were registered, against 116 during the previous year, giving an infant mortality of 6.6 per thousand inhabitants, and equal to 176 per thousand births registered, against 207 for 1901. This is still 43 per thousand births registered more than for the whole of England and Wales, and 43 higher than for the whole of England and Wales, less 179 large towns. One hundred and thirty-five died under 5 years of age, being 20 less than during the previous year, and giving a death-rate of 8.9 per thousand inhabitants, equal to 51 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

Thirty-seven deaths were registered of persons aged 65 years and upwards, against 43 during 1901. The aggregate ages of 30 of these aged 70 and upwards amounted to 2,285 years, giving an average of over 76 years.

The mortality from Bronchitis and Pnuemonia is 3.1 per thousand inhabitants, as compared with 4 for 1901. Eleven children under five years died of the one disease and 18 of the other during the year, being a decrease of two from each disease as compared with the previous year.

Sixteen persons died of Phthisis Pulmonalis, giving a death-rate of 1.06 per thousand inhabitants, against .81 for 1901. Fifteen died of other tubercular diseases, making a total of 31 from Tuberculosis, and equal to a death-rate of 2.06 per thousand inhabitants.

There is a considerable decrease in the number of deaths from the principal Zymotic diseases, 38 being recorded against 48 for 1901, and giving a Zymotic death-rate of 2.53 per thousand inhabitants, against 3.27 for the previous year and 1.64 for the whole of England and Wales.

During the year the following accidental deaths were registered: Three from burning, three from injuries received at Collieries, and two at Parkgate Ironworks.

One person was found drowned.

TABLE IV.

Showing the deaths and death-rate for the year for each District and for the whole Parish.

| District | Popula- tion | DEATHS. | | | Death rate per 1000 per annum |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| | | Males | Females | Totals | |
| Rawmarsh | 7465 | 68 | 61 | 129 | 17·28 |
| Parkgate | 7542 | 74 | 58 | 132 | 17·5 |
| Whole Parish | 15007 | 142 | 119 | 261 | 17·39 |

TABLE V.

Showing the deaths and death-rate for the Parish for each quarter, and for the whole year.

| QUARTER. | Deaths | Death rate per 1000 per annum. |
|--------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| First Quarter..... | 89 | 23·72 |
| Second „ | 59 | 15·72 |
| Third „ | 46 | 12·26 |
| Fourth „ | 67 | 17·85 |
| Whole Year | 261 | 17·39 |

TABLE VI.

The following tabular statement shows the Zymotic Diseases referred to, and the number of deaths and rates of mortality caused by them in each district during the years 1901 and 1902.

| | 1902. | | | | 1901. | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| | Raw-marsh. | Park-gate. | Hos-pital. | Whole Parish | Hos-pital. | Raw-marsh. | Park-gate. | Whole Parish |
| Cholera..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Small-pox..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Scarlatina..... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Measles..... | 10 | 13 | ... | 23 | ... | ... | 4 | 4 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Croup | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Typhoid Fever... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Diarrhœa | 5 | 8 | ... | 13 | ... | 11 | 20 | 31 |
| Total..... | 16 | 22 | ... | 38 | ... | 13 | 35 | 48 |
| Zymotic Death-rate per 1000 per annum ... | 2·14 | 2·91 | ... | 2·53 | ... | 1·79 | 4·72 | 3·27 |

TABLE VII.

Showing the Birth-rate, Death-rate, Zymotic Death-rate, and Infant Mortality for the whole Parish and for England and Wales, etc., for the year 1902.

| 1902. | Parish of Rawmarsh. | England and Wales. | Great towns (76) | Smaller towns. (103) | England and Wales, less towns (179) |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Birth-rate | 38·18 | 28·6 | | ... | ... |
| Death-rate | 17·39 | 16·3 | 17 4 | 15·3 | 15·3 |
| Zymotic Death-rate ... | 2·53 | 1·64 | 2·12 | 1·53 | 1·14 |
| Infant Mortality | 176 | 133 | 145 | 135 | 119 |
| (per 1000 births.) | | | | | |

TABLE VIII. (Table IV. of the Local Government Board).

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1902, and the District in which they occurred.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | DEATHS IN OR Belonging to LOCALITIES (at all Ages). | |
|--|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------|
| | All Ages. | Under 1. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and up- wards. | Raw marsh | Park- gate |
| Measles | 23 | 7 | 15 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 10 | 13 |
| Diphtheria and mem- branous croup ... | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Diarrhœa | 13 | 12 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 8 |
| Enteritis | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... |
| Phthisis | 16 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 13 | ... | 6 | 10 |
| Other tubercular di- seases | 15 | 8 | 4 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 9 | 6 |
| Cancer, malignant di- sease | 10 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Bronchitis | 18 | 11 | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 3 | 12 | 6 |
| Pneumonia | 29 | 8 | 10 | 1 | ... | 7 | 3 | 17 | 12 |
| Alcoholism | 8 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 2 | 1 |
| Cirrhosis of liver } | | | | | | | | | |
| Premature birth ... | 10 | 10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 6 |
| Diseases & accidents of parturition ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... |
| Heart diseases... .. | 14 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 | 4 | 4 | 10 |
| Accidents... .. | 8 | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | ... | 2 | 6 |
| All other causes ... | 98 | 45 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 19 | 28 | 51 | 47 |
| All causes | 261 | 101 | 34 | 10 | 7 | 69 | 40 | 129 | 132 |

TABLE IX. (Table I. of the Local Government Board). Vital Statistics of whole District during 1902 and previous years.

| Y <small>EAR</small> . | Population estimated to Middle of each Year | B <small>IRTHS</small> . | | T <small>OTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE</small> D <small>ISTRICT</small> . | | | | Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District. | N <small>ETT DEATHS AT ALL</small> A <small>GES BELONGING TO</small> T <small>HE DISTRICT</small> . | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| | | N <small>UMBER</small> . | R <small>ATE</small> .* | U <small>NDER 1 Year of Age</small> | | A <small>T all Ages</small> . | | | N <small>UMBER</small> . | R <small>ATE</small> .* |
| | | | | N <small>UMBER</small> . | R <small>ATE per</small> 1000 Births registered | N <small>UMBER</small> . | R <small>ATE</small> .* | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1892 | 12307 | 509 | 41·35 | 86 | 172 | 245 | 19·90 | | | |
| 1893 | 12566 | 569 | 45·28 | 106 | 186 | 266 | 21·16 | | | |
| 1894 | 12830 | 473 | 36·86 | 71 | 150 | 195 | 15·19 | | | |
| 1895 | 13085 | 513 | 39·20 | 90 | 175 | 207 | 15·81 | | | |
| 1896 | 13358 | 528 | 39·59 | 83 | 176 | 213 | 15·95 | | | |
| 1897 | 13608 | 507 | 37·25 | 89 | 175 | 255 | 18·73 | | | |
| 1898 | 13868 | 591 | 42·61 | 96 | 162 | 255 | 18·38 | | | |
| 1899 | 14129 | 501 | 35·88 | 103 | 205 | 267 | 18·89 | | | |
| 1900 | 14387 | 609 | 42·32 | 127 | 208 | 260 | 18·07 | 11 | 281 | 19·18 |
| 1901 | 14647 | 560 | 38·23 | 116 | 207 | 270 | 18·43 | | | |
| Averages to, years 1892- 901. | 13478 | 536 | 39·85 | 96 | 181 | 243 | 18·05 | | | |
| 1902 | 15007 | 573 | 38·18 | 101 | 176 | 245 | 16·32 | 16 | 261 | 17·39 |

TABLE X. (Table II. of the Local Government Board).
Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1902 and previous years.

| YEAR. | NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | RAWMARSH. | | | | PARKGATE. | | | |
| | Population esti- mated to middle of each year. | Births regis- tered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population esti- mated to middle of each year. | Births regis- tered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. |
| 1892 .. | 5191 | 196 | 94 | ... | 7117 | 313 | 151 | ... |
| 1893 ... | 5418 | 211 | 102 | ... | 7150 | 358 | 164 | ... |
| 1894 | 5645 | 171 | 81 | ... | 7183 | 302 | 114 | ... |
| 1895 .. | 5872 | 193 | 91 | ... | 7216 | 320 | 116 | ... |
| 1896 ... | 6099 | 195 | 93 | ... | 7249 | 333 | 120 | ... |
| 1897 ... | 6326 | 212 | 102 | ... | 7282 | 295 | 153 | ... |
| 1898 ... | 6553 | 221 | 136 | ... | 7315 | 280 | 131 | ... |
| 1899 .. | 6780 | 261 | 120 | ... | 7348 | 330 | 134 | ... |
| 1900 .. | 7007 | 265 | 113 | 51 | 7381 | 344 | 147 | 76 |
| 1901 .. | 7235 | 264 | 113 | 48 | 7412 | 296 | 168 | 68 |
| Averages of Years 1892 to 1901. | 6212 | 218 | 104 | ... | 7265 | 317 | 139 | ... |
| 1902 ... | 7465 | 255 | 129 | 52 | 7542 | 318 | 132 | 49 |

TABLE XI.

Showing the ages at which the 261 Deaths occurred.

| | Hospital | Rawmarsh | Parkgate | Whole Parish |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Under 1 Year | . | 52 | 49 | 101 |
| 1 and under 5 | ... | 14 | 20 | 34 |
| 5 ,, 15 | ... | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| 15 ,, 25 | ... | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 25 ,, 65 | ... | 27 | 42 | 69 |
| 65 and upwards | ... | 30 | 10 | 40 |
| Total | . | 129 | 132 | 261 |

TABLE XII.

Showing the natural increase in the population by Births over Deaths.

| | Rawmarsh | Parkgate | Whole Parish |
|----------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Births | 255 | 318 | 573 |
| Deaths | 129 | 132 | 261 |
| Increase | 126 | 186 | 312 |

SICKNESS.

SCARLET FEVER.—During the months of February, August and September the parish was entirely free from this disease. Forty cases occurred during the other months of the year. They were scattered all over the district, and could not be traced to any school or milk supply. They were mostly of a mild type, and no deaths were caused by it during the year.

The following Table shows the number of cases and their distribution.

TABLE XIII.

| | Rawmarsh. | Parkgate. | Whole Parish. |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| January | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| March | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| April..... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| May | 6 | 7 | 13 |
| June | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| July | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| August | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| October | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| November | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| December | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Total | 19 | 21 | 40 |

MEASLES.—The epidemic of Measles, which began in November, 1901, continued throughout January and February, 1902. It was confined mostly to Rawmarsh during February and declined in March. There were some cases in the month of June at the end of the parish below the ironworks. Twenty-three deaths were registered as due to this disease during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Six cases of this disease were reported during the year. One of them was imported. No insanitary condition was found associated with the cases. No death was attributed to the disease during the year.

DIARRHŒA.—The most noteworthy fact in connection with the sickness of the year was the very slight prevalence of Diarrhœa during the summer months, due most probably to the low temperature experienced during these months. Thirteen deaths were caused by the disease as compared with 34 during 1901. One each occurred in January, February, March and April, and three each in June, September and October.

DIPHTHERIA.—Nine cases in eight houses were reported, against 11 during the previous year. At one infected house a leaky ashpit was discovered percolating into the yard soil; a second house was generally in a very dirty state, but no insanitary conditions were found in connection with the others. One case was imported. They occurred one in March, one in August, two in September, three in October, and two in December. Two deaths were caused by it.

INFLUENZA.—Some cases of Influenza were noted in July. It became very prevalent in October and remained so to the end of the year. No deaths were directly referred to it.

TABLE XIV. (Table III. of the Local Government Board). Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1902.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT. | | | | | | | Total Cases notified in each Locality. | | No. of Cases re-moved to Hospital from each Locality. | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------------|--|------------|---|------------|
| | At all Ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Under 1 | 1 to 5 | 5 to 15 | 15 to 25 | 25 to 65 | 65 and upwards | Raw-marsh. | Park-gate. | Raw-marsh. | Park-gate. |
| Diphtheria ... | 9 | 2 | 6 | 1 | ... | ... | 5 | 4 | ... | ... | |
| Erysipelas ... | 25 | ... | 1 | 1 | 19 | 2 | 15 | 10 | ... | ... | |
| Scarlet fever ... | 40 | 1 | 19 | 6 | 1 | ... | 19 | 21 | 2 | 4 | |
| Enteric fever ... | 6 | ... | 2 | 1 | 3 | ... | 2 | 4 | ... | ... | |
| Chicken Pox... | 15 | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 12 | 3 | ... | ... | |
| Totals ... | 95 | 5 | 26 | 30 | 9 | 22 | 53 | 42 | 2 | 4 | |

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply during the year was abundant. There were fewer complaints of scarcity from the high level districts, Upper Haugh, Ryecroft, and Sandhill.

SANITATION &c.

I have regularly attended the Sanitary Committee or Monthly Council meetings, and read reports on the birth-rate, mortality and general health of the parish. I have sent monthly returns of the diseases prevalent in the district, and for a considerable period a weekly return re Small-pox to the Medical Officer of the County Council.

I attended a Conference at Leeds, convened by the County Council to consider the advisability of erecting a Sanatorium for patients suffering from phthisis, and I advised the Council to give a scheme of this kind their support.

I acted as a member of a sub-committee appointed to deal with the Isolation Hospital question, and attended a meeting with representatives of Rotherham Corporation to discuss a joint scheme.

In May I recommended the Council to pay medical practitioners for the notification of chicken-pox owing to the prevalence of small-pox in other districts, and my advice was adopted.

Four houses in Thompson's Row, Rawmarsh, were condemned under section 32, Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, as unfit for human habitation.

I have inspected different parts of the district at various times in the company of the Sanitary Inspector. Visits have as usual been made to premises in which infectious disease existed, inquiries made into the circumstances associated with the disease, and verbal instructions given with a view to prevent its spread. Printed instructions as to precautionary measures, legal penalties, and cleansing, etc., were also sent to such houses on receiving notification. Information was regularly given to the School Authorities when it was necessary to exclude from the Schools children coming from infected houses. In the case of Enteric Fever the ashpits were cleaused and disinfected and covered pails provided to receive excreta. Action was taken to remove insanitary conditions associated with infectious disease.

In May I inspected one of the Council's tips for day rubbish which was alleged to be a nuisance and the cause of a fatal case of diphtheria in an adjoining Parish. I found nothing to cause a nuisance or an outbreak of diphtheria. I believe it was ultimately proved, as I had at first suspected, that the fatal illness was contracted from a child visiting from a distant parish, and who was supposed to be convalescing from a simple sore throat, but which was really diphtheria.

In consequence of a complaint from a dairyman, who alleged that his dairy produce was getting tainted and his business affected by the smell from the Sheffield sludge tip, I reported as follows:—

“In accordance with a resolution of the Sanitary Committee, I yesterday visited the Rawmarsh Sewage Works and Sheffield Corporation sludge tip, near Kilnhurst. The sludge deposited at the Rawmarsh Works is much the same kind of material as that at the Corporation tip, but is almost infinitesimal in amount compared with the latter, and the odour is much less. At Roundwood Farm there was no smell, the wind at our visit carrying it away from the farm. On interviewing Mr. Cranidge, he stated emphatically that the nuisance he complained of was from the Sheffield tip, and not from the Rawmarsh Works, and that the offensive smell was carried from the direction of the tip by easterly winds which conveyed any smell there might be from Rawmarsh Works away from his farm. He said he very seldom experienced any unpleasantness from the Rawmarsh Works.”

At the same time I had to draw your attention to the condition of a section of your new main sewer in the following report:—

“When at the Sewage Works yesterday with the Sanitary Inspector, I examined an inspection chamber in connection with your main sewer, two or three hundred yards from Roundwood Farm, in consequence of a complaint from Mr. Cranidge. I found the lid of the inspection chamber covered over several inches in depth with sludge deposited from sewage having been forced out of the chamber. The next chamber nearer the Works was also blocked, while the one on the Rawmarsh side of the first was nearly filled to the top, and there was a gutter a foot in depth formed down the field by the sewage which had overflowed. The chamber at the junction of the Rawmarsh and Sandhill systems was not free, and there was only a slight flow of sewage going down the sewer from this point. There is evidently an almost complete block of the sewer for several hundred yards, and this, of course, requires your immediate attention.”

This serious state of matters, as you know, is almost certainly due to subsidence of the land from colliery workings.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—It is noteworthy that several complaints were made during the year of the emission of black smoke from the works of the Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., and from parts of the works not exempted by Section 334 of the Public Health Act, 1875. Representations were made to the Secretary of the Company, and attention was promised to the matter.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—The slaughter houses have been inspected during the year, and found generally in fairly good condition. Any requirements have been readily complied with.

COWSHEDS, ETC.—Nothing has been done by the owners or occupiers since my last report to bring the old cowsheds up to present day requirements. Notices will be served, if necessary, so that improvements may be carried out during the summer months of the current year.

The dairies and milkshops are kept in a clean and sanitary condition, but one dairy is still without a water supply.

SCHOOLS.—The school at Upper Haugh was closed for a fortnight in the month of September on the advice of my substitute, Dr. Menzies, owing to the prevalence of mumps in the village.

Complaint was made of an offensive smell at one school during the year. On inspection, a choked gully was found to be causing dampness of the walls near the heating apparatus. The clearing of the gully removed the nuisance.

DWELLING-HOUSES.—The dwelling-houses built during the year were nearly all cottage dwelling-houses. In Rawmarsh 37 ordinary water closets and 15 flush closets and 26 privies with covered ashpits were provided for 75 houses, and in Parkgate 23 flush closets and 4 ordinary water closets for 24 houses. The yards are nearly all well finished with asphalt. The drains are cut off from the sewers by disconnecting chambers, and most of them have also ventilating shafts as well. Many of these in their environment show great advances on those built 10 or 12 years ago. In many cases, however, Bye-law 87, which provides for the proper ventilation of covered ashpits is being entirely neglected. Privy ashpits are objectionable at the best, but when without a proper inlet for fresh air and a ventilating shaft in the roof they are a serious nuisance, especially in summer weather, when near dwelling-houses, as they generally are in this district. The Council ought to insist on the strict observance of this bye-law.

I took action on two occasions to prevent the erection of houses on objectionable material, nightsoil, etc., deposited on land. The material was removed from the sites and undertakings given by the builders to prevent percolation from surrounding soil by means of concrete and asphalt. Action of this kind is necessitated by the want of proper provision for the disposal of nightsoil and rubbish.

The gable end of a block of houses erected in 1898, and to which I have twice referred in my annual reports as “a disgrace to somebody,” began to bulge outwards and become dangerous during the year. Four bolts had to be passed through the walls to bind the end house to the second one of the block.

The backyards of others built about the same time, and which I also complained of, have been a nuisance in wet weather ever since the houses were built. The ashpits and yard level had to be raised to enable the yards to be drained, and this would have been unnecessary had proper supervision been exercised when the plans were presented.

STREETS.—Four streets have been properly made and channelled during the year, viz., Wannop Street, Coleman Street, Foundry Street, and Fitzwilliam Street. There still remain for your attention Infirmary Road, Wheatcroft Road, Apollo Street, Bernard Street, Evelyn Street, Osberton Street, Sandhill Road, and France Street. Some of these have been in an insanitary state for a good many years.

SEWERS.—Two hundred and sixty two yards of new sewerage have been laid down in Aldwarke Road. An old sewer which was near the houses in Rawmarsh Hill has at last been done away with, and the properties there have all been connected to the sewer in the middle of the road. The storm water is being gradually dealt with by means of storm water sewers. As an example of what is being often found on exposing old sewers or drains I quote the following from the Sanitary Inspector's Monthly Report for October:—

“Only one connection out of the eleven was by junction; the others were all broken pipes and pieces of brick. In one case the sewage had washed out 6 inches under the drain from bad pipes and joints.”

The sewer in Rotherham Road and the inspection chambers in Rawmarsh Hill remain as I have previously reported them.

NIGHTSOIL REMOVAL.—I can only repeat what I wrote last year with reference to the removal of nightsoil and rubbish.

Nightsoil and rubbish have been removed during the year by your own men under the superintendence of the Sanitary Inspector and a foreman. The work has been very efficiently done, and I have not had a single complaint of neglect in connection with this department. This is a striking contrast to the years when the work was done by a Contractor.

The Sanitary Inspector's report shows in detail other sanitary work done during the year.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The workshops under this Act in this district comprise four milliners, ten dressmakers, one tailor, one stocking manufacturer, two filecutters, one shoemaker, one cabinetmaker, one joiner, two pork butchers, and one bakehouse. They employ 27 males and 65 females—a total of 92 persons.

DRESSMAKERS.—With one exception, each dressmaking workshop is a room of an ordinary cottage house, either a room intended originally for a bedroom, or a sitting room. In one it is a good sized room communicating with a scullery kitchen. In another a small wooden apartment is erected against a scullery wall, but with no communication with the dwelling house. There are practically no children in these houses. They have all papered walls and whitewashed ceilings, and are all in a fairly clean condition. The ventilation is that of

ordinary cottage houses, that is, an outlet by the chimney and fireplace, and inlets through the doors and windows. The workers generally sit around the windows for light, and unless in warm weather keep the windows closed. The occupiers have all been advised as to means of ventilating by the windows without causing a draught, and if the advice is not carried out notices will be served to enforce it. In none of them is there any overcrowding or nuisance of any kind. Not more than five workers are employed in any of them.

MILLINERS.—Two of these workshops have been erected for the purpose and are brick buildings. In both, the cubic space is ample and sufficient for at least double the number of employees. The other two are rooms of cottage houses. My remarks on the ventilation, cleanliness, number of employees, etc., of the dressmaking workshops apply equally to all of these with the exception that one milliner's workshop has two brick outlets in the gable end in addition to the fireplace.

TAILOR'S WORKSHOP.—The one tailor's workshop has been recently occupied for the first time as such. It consists of part of the most pretentious and highly finished building, and not long erected in the parish. The walls and ceiling are lined entirely with wood, and are well varnished. It is divided by a wooden partition 7ft. high into two apartments—the front one a sale shop and the back one the working place for two men, a boy, and a young woman. There is no window in this back apartment, which receives its light over the partition from the large shop window and a little from a fanlight over a door in the passage. In this back place there is a gas stove for heating irons but no ventilating flue. There is no fireplace in either apartment, and there is only one inlet (other than the front shop door) for fresh air—the fanlight I have mentioned—and no outlet whatever. The ceiling of the whole place is 15ft. high and the cubic space of the two apartments is 4,338 feet, and of the back workshop 1,824 feet.

The sanitary convenience, a w.c., can only be reached by passing through the private house behind, and at the time of my visit there was a water leakage on to the seat.

STOCKING MANUFACTURER.—This workshop employs 16 young women, and is a well built brick building erected for the purpose. The flat fitted up with the knitting machines and where the workers are nearly all employed requires more ventilation, and this the owner and occupier readily consented to improve. It is whitewashed at least once a year.

PORK BUTCHERS.—Two pork butchers' premises are workshops under the Act, as they prepare food for sale in the form of polony, black puddings, pork pies, etc. The meat is cooked in proper boilers by means of steam. The pastry for the pies is prepared in the dwelling houses, which are clean and airy, and the pies are either baked on gas stoves or sent to a baker. One of these slaughter houses in which the food is boiled was in need of whitewashing and slight repairs to the floor when I last visited. They are generally kept in a clean state, and are whitewashed at regular intervals of at most three months.

SHOEMAKER.—This workshop has not been long erected. The front of it is nearly all glass, so that there is plenty of light in every corner of it, and it has ample cubic space for the four workers. There are no fresh air inlets, and at the time of my visit the atmosphere was stifling.

FILECUTTERS.—These workshops have both been built for the trade. One of them is a wooden erection built against a brick wall, and is kept very clean. There is plenty of air space, and it is occupied by a man, his son, and a daughter, who are all out-workers for an employer in another parish. The only air outlet is the furnace. Some of the windows open, but in such a way as to cause a strong draught, and they are consequently kept closed except in warm weather. The other workshop can be fairly well ventilated if the means are used. It is fairly clean, and there is ample air space for the workers. One man works as an out-worker in a small place by himself. It is large enough for one, containing nearly 500 cubic feet of air space, but the means of ventilation are bad.

BAKEHOUSE.—There is only one bakehouse. It is occupied by one worker, and is of more than sufficient for one man. There is an outlet for ventilation made by omitting one brick, but no inlet for fresh air, and the floor is bad.

CABINETMAKER.—Two places are occupied by the one employer, one an upper room over a sale shop. It requires whitewashing and ventilating inlet. The other place is an old outhouse, in which one man works. It is not very tidy, but it has a fireplace and an inlet for fresh air.

JOINER.—The single joiner's workshop is a large brick building occupied by two workers. It is very clean, and has means for ventilation if used, although not of the best.

One workshop has two out-workers who make up wearing apparel at their houses, which are clean and unobjectionable.

One choked drain was found outside a workshop, and there was a collection of manure too near the door of another.

Some of them had not an abstract of the Act exhibited on the walls.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

There are still some recommendations I have to draw your attention to for the future sanitary improvement of the Parish.

1st—The adoption of improved Bye-laws regulating slaughter houses, or the erection of a public slaughter house.

2nd—The erection of a destructor or other efficient provision for the disposal of nightsoil and rubbish.

3rd—Proper Hospital accommodation for the isolation of infectious diseases and an efficient disinfectant.

I think it good policy for Local Authorities to try and avoid multiplying these institutions unnecessarily, and therefore I advised you to approach Rotherham Borough Council in the hope that a combined scheme for a large populous area might be carried out. For this reason I am sorry the negotiations to which I referred so hopefully in my last annual report have ended in failure. The final terms offered you were utterly inconsistent with the spirit of fairness professed by the Rotherham representatives at the opening of the negotiations, and were such that in my opinion you would have been seriously compromising the interests of the parish had you not rejected them. Happily this question is not an entirely one-sided one. A local Hospital will have some very distinct local advantages. I can report that you have already taken preliminary steps towards a scheme of your own, which will receive the approval and support of the County Council, and I have no doubt of the Local Government Board as well.

4th—The provision of water closets to all new dwelling-houses and the gradual conversion of privies into w.c.'s.

5th—(a). The adoption of Bye-laws under the 23rd and 26th Section of the Public Health Acts Amendment Acts, 1890, which deal with the following matters:—

SECTION 23.—Keeping water closets supplied with sufficient water for flushing ;

The structure of floors, hearths, and staircases, and the height of rooms intended to be used for human habitation ;

SECTION 26.—Prescribing the time for removal of offensive matter through streets, whether from within, without, or through the authorities' district.

Providing that receptacles, carts, etc., shall be properly constructed and covered.

Compelling cleansing of any place where such matter has been spilt or dropped in removal.

Imposing duties on the occupier of premises in connection with removal of house refuse, so as to facilitate such work when the local authority undertakes or contracts for it.

(b) The adoption of improved Bye-laws, under the 44th Section of the Public Health Act, 1875, for the prevention of nuisances arising from snow, filth, dust, ashes, and rubbish ; and for the prevention of the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health.

Accompanying this Report are Tables I., II., III., and IV., supplied by the Local Government Board, and Table C, supplied by the Medical Officer of the County Council.

JAMES PICKEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Parkgate, March 18th, 1903.

Rawmarsh Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1902 I have reported at the monthly meeting of the Sanitary Committee that Notices have been served for the abatement of the following nuisances in accordance with the Public Health Acts :—

| | NOTICES. |
|--|----------|
| Choked Drains | 48 |
| Accumulation of offensive water in Middens ... | 13 |
| Defective Drains in Cellars, Baths, etc. ... | 11 |
| Repairs to Dwelling-house Floors, etc. ... | 10 |
| Defective Water Service to W.C. ... | 6 |
| To remove offensive accumulations of Manure ... | 6 |
| Defective Sinks and Sink Pipes ... | 5 |
| To Drain Stables properly ... | 5 |
| Defective Spouting causing wet bedrooms ... | 4 |
| To Cleanse polluted Water Cisterns ... | 4 |
| Choked W.C. ... | 3 |
| Keeping Pigs so as to be a Nuisance ... | 3 |
| Repairs to Ashpits ... | 3 |
| Dangerous Buildings near Highway ... | 3 |
| Pave and Ashphalte Yards ... | 2 |
| To provide proper Water Supply to Dwelling ... | 2 |
| To remove Buildings interfering with Air Space ... | 1 |
| To remove Stagnant Water from Cellar ... | 1 |
| Keeping Ducks in Dwelling-house ... | 1 |
| Cease Draining Piggery into an Ashpit ... | 1 |
| Undrained Piggery ... | 1 |
| Ashpit without proper Doors and Covering ... | 1 |
| Deficient Ventilator in Workshop ... | 1 |
| Deficient Privy accommodation ... | 1 |
| To drain Yard Area ... | 1 |

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All of which have been complied with, or promised attention.

DRAINAGE.

Defective Drains have been remedied at Rose Hill Street, Quarry Street, Dale Road, Green Lane, Holmes Yard, 96, 98, 106, Victoria Road, Westfield Road, Ashwood Road, New Street. Parkgate, Lloyd Street, Holly Bush, Holm Flat Street, Midland Street, Stanley Street, Sarum Terrace, Gasworks Yard,.

Old Drains have been taken out and relaid with inspection chambers and proper ventilators, 70 to 80 Broad Street; Club, Rawmarsh; Working Men's Club, Ashwood Road; Depot Yard, High Street; 70 to 78 and 32 to 36, Netherfield Road; Rockingham Arms, 154 to 160, Victoria Road, Westfield Road, and Bank Pit Houses.

At the Central Schools, Netherfield Road, new trough closets with inspection chamber have been put in. Some one had severed the connection with previous sewer, but only re-connected one batch of these trough closets to Goosebutt Street sewer. Consequently the Boys' School closets had no connection to a sewer, but discharged into made ground until found in a bad choked condition.

The old defective sewer west side of Rawmarsh Hill, after thorough cleansing has been done away with, and each property connected to main sewer in roadway with inspection chambers and interceptors.

COW SHEDS AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1885.

| | Cowkeepers. | Purveyors & Dairymen. | Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------|
| There were on Register Jan. 1st, 1902 | ... 13 ... | ... 10 ... | 23 |
| Added to Register during 1902 | ... 4 ... | ... 1 ... | 5 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 17 | 11 | 28 |
| Given up the Trade during the Year | ... 1 ... | ... 0 ... | 1 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 16 | 11 | 27 |

I have visited the whole of the Cow Sheds and Dairies situate in my district. Only one has the cubic area required by Bye-law, viz., 800 cubic feet for each cow, not having sufficient width and height; nine of them were overcrowded with cows. Many of them are old buildings, and will require new buildings. The dairies in the district are in good, clean condition.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 18 slaughter-houses on the Register, which I have visited at intervals during the year.

FOOD ANALYSIS.

Four samples of new milk and two samples of butter have been submitted to A. H. Allen, Esq., County Analyst, all of which were found "genuine" or of "fair quality," complying with the requirements of the Board of Agriculture."

One carcase of beef was submitted for inspection at a farm before being offered for sale, having had an accident and not any disease,

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There has been notified during 1902 :—

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---------|-----------|------|---------------|----|----|---------|
| 40 | persons | suffering | from | Scarlet Fever | in | 33 | houses. |
| 25 | „ | „ | | Erysipelas | „ | 25 | „ |
| 15 | „ | „ | | Chicken Pox | „ | 14 | „ |
| 9 | „ | „ | | Diphtheria | „ | 8 | „ |
| 6 | „ | „ | | Typhoid | „ | 6 | „ |

95 persons suffering in86 houses.

A decrease of seven Notifications from last year.

They were located as follows :—

| | Scarlet fever. | Houses. | Erysipelas. | Houses. | Chicken Pox. | Houses. | Diphtheria. | Houses. | Typhoid fever. | Houses. |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|-------------|---------|--------------|---------|-------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| North Ward ... | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Central Ward | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| West Ward..... | 13 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| East Ward | 6 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| South Ward | 8 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | 40 | 33 | 25 | 25 | 15 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 6 |

HOSPITAL.

There has been removed to the Infectious Hospital during 1902 :

3 males suffering from Scarlet Fever.

3 females suffering from Scarlet Fever.

6 between the ages of 18 and 5 years.

Taken from West Ward 4 Patients.

East „ 1 „

South „ 1 „

Total... 6

Houses have been fumigated and cleansed ; post cards forwarded warning teachers in Elementary Schools when Notification has been made of Infectious Disease by Medical Attendant ; disinfectants sent

to each infected house with printed suggestions and precautions necessary for preventing spread of such infectious disease; ashpits and privies specially cleansed when Typhoid is notified and special pails supplied for use.

VISITATION.

I have visited the yards and premises of 9,022 houses during the year.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901.

I have accompanied the Medical Officer of Health in visiting all the known workshops in the district, which are referred to in his Report in detail.

REFUSE REMOVAL.

There has been removed during 1902 :—

| Loads. | Middens. | Privies. | Nights. | | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| 5147 | from 3133 and cleaning | 6365 | in 277½ | at a cost of | 468 | 3 | 4 |
| 1116 | from 1039 Dry Ashpits | } | Costing | ... | 126 | 12 | 8 |
| 459 | of Rubbish from yards and shops | | | ... | 42 | 6 | 6 |
| | Trenching Land | ... | .. | ... | | | |
| <u>6722 loads from 4202 Ashpits</u> | | | | | <u>£637</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>6</u> |
| 6365 Privies. | | | | | | | |

which shows 39 loads less removed this year than in 1901, although 566 ashpits more have been clensed than in 1901. 2266 loads have been deposited on farm land and 4988 loads placed at the tips to be covered with earth.

The Sanitary Staff have earned:

| | £ | s. | d. |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| For Fish Refuse Removal | 8 | 17 | 0 |
| Hospital Work | 1 | 16 | 0 |
| Changing of Typhoid Boxes | 3 | 6 | 0 |
| Highway Department | 0 | 18 | 5 |
| | <u>£14</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>5</u> |

Some provision for Tip for Refuse at Rawmarsh will shortly require the attention of the Council, as the present Tip is rapidly filling up. I still urge the substitution of W.C.'s instead of Privies to all new property being the cheapest and best means of refuse removal.

JAMES WHITEHEAD.

Inspector of Nuisances.